

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: IO/SCI - MR. CAVANAUGH

APPROVED BY: IO/SCT - MR. CAVANAUGH

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TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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FOLLOWING REPEATOTTAWA 2282 SENT SECSTATE DATED JUNE 18.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 2282

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, PARM, ENRG,CA

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER SETS FIRM LINE ON NUCLEAR POLICY

REF: OTTAWA 2171 AND 2221

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE TRADITIONAL DINNER ADDRESS AT THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN NUCLEAR ASSOCIATION WAS DELIVERED BY NO LESS THAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU HIMSELF. ALTHOUGH THE PM HAD AGREED TO ADDRESS THE MEETING MANY MONTHS AGO, HE CHOSE THE OPPORTUNITY THUS AFFORDED TO OUTLINE IN NO-NONSENSE TERMS WHAT THE POLICY OF HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ATOMIC ENERGY, IN SO DOING, HE SERVED NOTICE ON OPPOSITION MEMBERS IN PARLIAMENT WHO HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR SALES THAT AT LEAST THE TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONTINUE MAKING SALES. (FULL TEXT OF SPEECH BEING POUCHED TO OES AND ACDA.)

2. PM BASED HIS CASE ON THREE POINTS AS FOLLOWS:

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A. "BY CARING FOR OTHERS, BY SHARING WHAT WE POSSESS AND OTHERS

NEED, WE ARE FOSTERING THE SPIRIT OF HOPE AND EASING THE QUEST FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE NOW SO PREVALENT IN SO MANY COUNTRIES. B. "BY INSISTING ON THE MOST STRINGENT OF SAFEGUARDS AND PRECAUTIONS WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ENSURE THAT THE NUCLEAR GENIE WILL NOT ESCAPE FROM THE CONSTRAINTS DEMANDED OF IT AND BRING SUFFERING TO FUTURE GENERATIONS.

C. "BY ENCOURAGING CANADIANS TO ENGAGE IN WHAT THEY DO BEST, BY SUPPORTING INITIATIVE AND COMPETENCE IN TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED FIELDS, WE ARE CONTRIBUTING CONFIDENCE TO A NEW CANADA, ONE THAT I HAVE DESCRIBED AS BEING ON THE THRESHOLD OF GREATNESS." END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. IN PRESENTATION, PM FULLY DEVELOPED THESIS THAT IT WOULD BE MORALLY WRONG TO WITHHOLD NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT THIS WAS HIS SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT POSITION WHICH HE RECENTLY TOOK IN PARLIAMENT REPLYING TO CRITICS. IN DEVELOPING THIS THESIS, HOWEVER, HE WAS MOST CAREFUL TO EMPHASIZE HEAVILY THE NEED FOR AS EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS AS POSSIBLE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PURESSEY MAY QUOTE OUT OF CONTEXT A SENTENCE IN HIS SPEECH SAYING THAT CANADA WAS PROUD OF HAVING HELPED INDIA. SHOULD THIS HAPPEN, ADDRESSEES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT NOTHING REPEAT NOTHING IN ADDRESS INDICATED ANY CHANGE IN CANADA'S POSITION ON SAFEGUARDS. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. PORTER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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